

Please delete the current abstract of the disclosure and replace it with the following:

The present invention related to a method for producing a *Cimicifuga racemosa* plant extract by treating solid plant material with an extraction agent, separating extraction liquid from solid plant material, and concentrating said extraction liquid in the presence of poly(vinylpyrrolidone) in order to avoid loss of constituents during the concentration step. Other aspects of the invention are directed to an extract of *Cimicifuga racemosa* obtained by the above method, the use of said extract for producing a medicament for treating climacteric and post menopausal distress or for producing a medicament for a hormone replacement therapy. A further aspect of the invention concerns a medicament comprising an extract as defined above.

In paragraph 6 of the published application, please correct the following typographical error:

Conventional methods of producing such extracts are based upon treatment of plant material with an aqueous ~~alcanolic~~ alkanolic extracting agent so as to obtain a raw or primary extract which after an optional treatment for removal of fines, e.g. by sedimentation or filtration, which contains the extracting agent and the plant constituents that are soluble in the extracting agent.

In paragraph 7 of the published application, please correct the following typographical error:

Typically, the primary extract is then concentrated by partial evaporation of the extracting agent so as to remove its more volatile components, generally the ~~aleanolie~~ alkanolic constituents plus some water, and to form what is called a concentrated extract, typically containing 5-50% by volume, of residual solvent, i.e. water. Upon further removal of solvent, a solid, pasty, or liquid material is obtained that is substantially free of the solvent used for extraction of the plant material. This product (also termed "extract") can then be used as such or processed to produce specific application forms, e.g. pills, lotions, solutions, powders etc., optionally adding whatever adjuvants, additives, coating components and the like are needed for the final medicinal product.

In paragraph 35 of the published application, please correct the following typographical error:

Preferably, the extraction agent is a polar substance, such as a normally liquid alcohol, e.g. methanol, ethanol, propanol, butanol as well as mixtures of such C₁₋₄ alcohols with each other and/or with water. Mixtures of from about 40 to about 80%, by weight, of such ~~aleanol~~ alkanol,

preferably ethanol, with about 60 to about 20%, by weight, of water are preferred for many purposes. Whenever the qualificator "about" is used herein, it is intended to include a variation of $\pm 30\%$, preferably $\pm 10\%$, from the value associated with this qualificator.

In paragraph 37 of the published application, please correct the following typographical error:

A preferred embodiment of the inventive process is carried out by extraction of the dry plant material with an ethanol-water mixture containing about 50-60%, by volume, of ethanol und about 50-40%, by volume, of water. Upon concentration, the ~~aleanolite~~ alkanolic constituents plus any water of an azeotropic mixture is removed until a solids concentration of about 25-50%, by weight, is reached. The concentrated extract obtained may then by processed in any conventional manner, e.g. by spray-drying to form a dry product. During such a final concentration step, e.g. upon spray-drying the solution mediator PVP additionally acts as a spray-drying adjuvant. Generally, the PVP has the effect that a homogeneous consistence of the extract is maintained in all stages of the concentration process.

In paragraph 60 of the published application, please correct the following typographical error:

In such experiments, PVP, also known as Povidone, is found to substantially preclude rimming when concentrating extracts of *Cimicifuga racemosa* and, therefore, is the solution mediator according to the invention for processing extracts of *Cimicifuga racemosa* by evaporation of the extraction solvent. A PVP preferred for many purposes of the invention is obtainable commercially under the trademark Plasdone® K-29/32. This PVP has a molecular mass of about 58'000 Dalton units and a typical viscosity 2,5 mpa·s when measured at standard conditions. This type of PVP highly soluble in water as well as in a lower ~~alcanol~~ alkanol, methylene chloride, chloroform and other conventional organic solvents.